

DR. COOK IS EXPLAINING

Mental and Physical Strain of Arctic Trip Is Described

New York, Dec. 16.—Dr. Frederick A. Cook, the Brooklyn traveler, has sent word to his friends here that he will appear next week, following his self-imposed exile of one year.

Dr. Cook will arrive from Europe probably on next Wednesday. The doctor has confessed that he does not know whether he reached the north pole or not, and in tomorrow's issue of *Hampton's Magazine* he tells of the mental and physical strain he labored under on his journey northward. Dr. Cook, in speaking of his trip over the ice, says:

"There was little in the white waste about me to occupy my attention. Sometimes a spot on the horizon or the twist of a dog's tail would fascinate me and hold my attention for many minutes.

"During this time, from the early days of our journey, as I want to show, everything centered about the idea of the pole. Then, to bewilder me, to set one laughing with silly amusement or to fill one with a sense of awe, the party began a procession through mirages and optical illusions. The mental effect I find it difficult to analyze. Sometimes these exaggerated transformations had the effect of bringing far off objects apparently near to us. This often caused confusion in estimating distances.

"Saw Fantastic Unreality.

"Just after Heiberg Land had become a dull bare behind us, these fantastic unrealitys of the north began to manifest themselves most. Peaks of snow were transformed into volcanoes, belching smoke. Out of the darkly blue, the temperature, with fairy castles; huge creatures, misshapen and grotesque, writhed along the horizon.

"These spectral denizens of the north accompanied us during the journey, and when I was fatigued by half-consciousness, they filled me almost with horror, impressing me as the monsters one sees in a nightmare.

"Traveling in wind that seemed to petrify the air, the temperature, degrees, or even minus 59 degrees Fahrenheit, the lashes of our eyes froze together as we walked, and when we rubbed them and drew apart the lids, the iceles broke the tender skin. Our breath froze in our throats. Often we had to uncover our hands and apply the warm palms to the face before it was possible to see.

"Halfbreath Escapes.

"When I recall the many half-breath escapes from death, the hazards we took, and feel again that physical and mental suffering, I wonder whether any living man would do this were he premeditating a lie.

"That I did travel upward of 2,500 miles in some direction, even my enemies credit.

"Whether I went directly north or was diverted at times does not, can not, change the facts of my experience. We were compelled on our journey to go in various directions to find a way. We made wide detours, at other times we had to retrace and find new passages.

"Perhaps in so doing I did become confused and overestimated my progress. If that is so it is a fact neither of us can deny. What the actual distance was, however, I maintain it was northward, and I did reach a spot which I believed to be the pole.

"Effect of Cold.

"One day was very like another. Beyond the Sud polar ice was devoid of any impressions. The intense objective pressures of cold and hunger assailing the body, rob the mind of inspiration and exhalation.

"At times it was impossible to persevere and the toxin of fatigue, generating unceasingly weariness, filled the brain with fog. When perspiration oozed out from our pores it froze in the garments and the warmer portions of our bodies were fringed with snow. Daily, unremittently, this was our agony.

"My boys had the advantage of sleep. I envied them. Anyone who has suffered from insomnia may be able, in a small degree, to gauge my condition when sleep became impossible. To reach the pole, my journey became the haunting, ever-present, goading thought of my wakeful existence.

"Sun at Midnight.

"From the end of the polar night, late in February, up to the sleep of April 7, I estimated by various systems of reckoning that we had covered a distance which placed me somewhat over 200 miles from my goal. The sun, because of clouded skies, had not been visible before, but now it was seen for the first time in many months. I assumed a strange shape. I have described it as a vast blue fire, from which rose luminous flares. I have spoken of the distorted faces which leered at us over the horizon. Sometimes in our northward progress these faces laughed, again they scorned. What the actual configurations were, I do not know.

"Despite a physical lassitude and suffering, which made it painful to move, I took observations in a regular, mechanical way. The much to be made about such 'proofs' never at that time occurred to me or seemed possible. Although I had gone on other expeditions and had performed scientific work, such a feat as this always meant to me the satisfaction of a spiritual hunger rather than a trophy to be laid before geographers, who never stepped out of the protected circle of their home environment.

"What He Thought.

"I never expected that my accomplishment of the pole, if I did it, would be regarded as a thing of great importance to science, which it is, not I want to be honest in this, and

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"This institution makes a practice of sending about three carloads of babies west each year," said Dr. S. J. Carmichael, district passenger agent of the Illinois Central railroad, who has charge of the party.

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Until more dining room space can be provided each teacher in the school selects five children from her room who are most in need of the privilege of the penny lunch.

There are 20 rooms in this school, the largest in the city, and the total enrollment is more than 2,000. The Jackson school is in the heart of the Italian district and in one of the most congested districts in Chicago.

The penny lunch will be started in other schools at once.

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Though the values are not as great as in the more prosperous days of racing, the list contains all the notable races that have been features of this association since its beginning. The stakes to close December 31, are as follows:

The juvenile, for two-year-olds, 5 furlongs, value \$2,500; the Ladies, for three-year-old fillies, mile, value \$2,500; the Belmont, for three-year-olds, mile and three furlongs, value \$5,000. The Coney Island Jockey club has issued entry blanks for the Fatality of 1913, to close Monday, January 2, 1911. They are as in other years regarding penalties and allowances. The association adds \$5,000 and the probabilities are that the stake will be worth \$35,000.

BITE OF A DOG CAUSES A DEATH

Nassau, N. H., Dec. 16.—The bite of a dog three years ago has just caused the death here of Charles I. Richards, 48 years old, an officer of the New Hampshire Humane society. Richards was taken ill Monday with pneumonia, and on Wednesday symptoms of hydrophobia developed.

THE CORN CROP CAN BE DOUBLED

Washington, Dec. 16.—That it is only a matter of time before it will be possible to double the present average production of corn per acre in the United States, is the belief of C. P. Hartley, physiologist in charge of the corn investigations of the bureau of plant industry, set forth in a pamphlet issued by the department of agriculture. And this may be accomplished without increasing the work or expense, says Mr. Hartley.

Mr. Hartley suggests three ways by which farmers would be able practically to double the present production per acre. These are:

First, improvement in the quality of seed plant; second, improvement in the condition of the soil, and third, improvement in the method of cultivation.

Mr. Hartley says that it should not be understood from this statement that it is desirable to double the present corn crop, but that it is desirable to produce the same yield on a smaller number of acres and with less labor.

The expert says that the average crop in the states best adapted to corn growing is but little above the general average of the entire country. This, he says, clearly indicates the possibility of greatly increasing the yield per acre in the corn belt. This is especially easy of accomplishment in the Southern states, where the present production per acre is low and where the growing season is not shortened by frosts.

MURPHY VS. MOORE.

New York, Dec. 16.—Tommy Murphy, a New York lightweight, fought Paul Moore of Philadelphia to a finish last night in a 10-round bout. Honors were even in the early rounds but in the last two Murphy had Moore clinching to the bell.

ROCKEFELLER BUYS RED CROSS SEALS.

New York, Dec. 16.—John D. Rockefeller, the largest purchaser of Red Cross seals in the United States. His order, filed by the New York Red Cross society, was for 50,000 of the Christmas stickers, which will be placed on the reverse side of all mail matter sent out from the offices of the Standard Oil company during the holiday season.

OHIO RIVER IS CLOSED TO NAVIGATION.

Gallipolis, Ohio, Dec. 16.—The Ohio river is practically closed to navigation from this city to Pittsburg, Pa., because of ice. Ice groves have formed in a number of places and shipping is in danger.

The tugboat Crescent, of Pittsburg, with a tow of barges, was crowded on the rocks when a gorge formed at Lelart Falls.

ROBBERS HOLD UP A BANK CASHIER.

Tulsa, Okla., Dec. 16.—Robbers held up Cashier J. H. Coombs of the First State bank at Tulsa, Okla., at the point of a revolver at 11 o'clock today, took what money was available and escaped. Citizens formed a posse to pursue the robbers.